

been entirely supplanted by a luxuriant growth of cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*). Nestling under the larger fronds I noticed some much smaller ones which superficially resembled the half-grown leaves of the sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*). I was quickly over the low stone wall which separated the wood from the road, and a short search revealed several plants with long, slender, contracted fertile fronds which confirmed my hope that I had at last found the net-veined chain fern (*Woodwardia areolata*) with which I was until now familiar only through pressed specimens.

Nearby and scattered through the wood I found numerous plants of the Massachusetts fern (*Aspidium simulatum*) fronds of which and of other ferns I gathered to place in water, and that evening my room was filled with a delicate, spicy fragrance. Wishing to make certain that this fragrance emanated from the Massachusetts fern, I returned to the wood a few days later and gathered a quantity of it, noticing as I did so that almost every frond was delicately sweet, and this, it seemed to me, was particularly noticeable in the immature fertile fronds. The ground in which they grew, though not swampy, was so soft and spongy with moss and partly decayed pine needles that several roots were easily pulled up, and these I took with me later to Maine and planted them there in a mixed fern bed, where, if they live, they will be under observation.

As Mr. Weatherby tells me that a fragrant form of the Massachusetts fern seems not hitherto to have been reported, I am glad to pass on this bit of information to the readers of the FERN JOURNAL.—F. E. CORNE, *Cambridge, Mass.*

THE SPINULOSE FERNS OF TIM POND, MAINE.—The third to the twelfth, inclusive, of September, 1924, were

spent by the writer botanizing and trout-fishing at a beautiful little mountain lake (misnamed "Tim Pond") down in Maine, less than twenty miles from the Canadian border. Along the higher parts of the rough and rocky trail leading from the town of Stratton to "Tim," as well as in the more open parts of the woodlands and along the paths around the lake, at an elevation of about two thousand feet above sea-level, the broad-leaf spinulose fern, *Dryopteris dilatata*, var. *americana*, is abundant. It grows especially large and luxuriantly amongst the fallen, well rotted tree trunks, where the soil is saturated with moisture. From its prostrate rootstocks spring buds that soon develop into good sized plants, spreading in all directions and thus forming large colonies.

Scattered about are many thrifty plants of the evergreen spinulose fern, *Dryopteris intermedia*, their narrower, dark olive fronds contrasting pleasingly with the much broader and lighter, yellowish-green leaves of var. *americana*. It is only when we see these two species growing together that we realize how very different they are in color.

At the time of my visit light frosts had already left their mark on the var. *americana* in the less sheltered spots, turning more or less of each frond to a dull, homely brownish-olive.

The largest and finest patches of these ferns were found in the half shade of the deciduous trees, especially beneath the yellow birches, rather than in the denser shade of the spruce and fir balsams. Fronds of var. *americana* more than forty-six inches long and from eighteen to twenty inches broad were not uncommon. A few specimens of typical *Dryopteris spinulosa* were found in swamps adjacent to the lake.—EDWARD H. CLARKSON, *Newburyport, Mass.*